



# NEWS RELEASE



United States Department of Agriculture  
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## Livestock Reports and Price Reactions

The U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) released, "Price Reactions After USDA Livestock Reports" on March 26, 2012, showing price reactions to the USDA *Cattle on Feed, Quarterly Hogs and Pigs*, and *Milk Production* reports.

**Cattle on Feed:** From 2001 through 2011, prices from one week prior to the monthly reports' release, to the release week, increased 66 times for an average increase of \$1.65 per cwt. and decreased 66 times for an average decrease of \$1.63 per cwt. From the release week, to one week after the reports were published, prices increased 65 times for an average increase of \$1.88 per cwt. and decreased 67 times for an average decrease of \$1.54 per cwt. For 2011, the average price change from the week before, to the week of the reports' release was -\$0.97. The average price change from the week of the reports' release, to the week after was \$0.71 for 2011.

**Hogs and Pigs:** From 2001 through 2011, prices from one week prior to the monthly reports' release, to the release week, increased 22 times for an average increase of \$1.20 and decreased 22 times for an average decrease of \$1.40. From the release week, to one week after the reports were published, prices increased 16 times for an average increase of \$1.94 and decreased 28 times for an average decrease of \$1.38. For 2011, the average price change from the week before, to the week of the reports' release was \$1.36. The average price change from the week of the reports' release, to the week after was \$1.42 for 2011.

**Butter:** From 2007 through 2011, prices from one week prior to the monthly reports' release, to the release week, increased 33 times for an average increase of \$0.28 and decreased 23 times for an average decrease of \$0.27. From the release week, to one week after the reports were published, prices increased 31 times for an average increase of \$.03 and decreased 24 times for an average decrease of \$0.45. For 2011, the average price change from the week before, to the week of the reports' release was -\$0.06 cents. The average price change from the week of the reports' release, to the week after was -\$0.08 cents for 2011.

The USDA *Cattle on Feed* monthly reports publish on-feed inventory, fed cattle marketings, and feeder cattle placements. The USDA *Quarterly Hogs and Pigs* reports provide data on hog and pig inventory, sows farrowing, pig crop estimates, and 3-month and 6-month farrowing intentions. The USDA, AMS prices used in this report for cattle on feed and hogs represent sales from producers to first buyers at major markets. The USDA, *Milk Production* monthly report provides data on the number of milk cows, milk per cow, and total milk production for the 23 major milk producing States. Butter prices in this publication are based on the daily cash settlement prices reported by the Chicago Mercantile Exchange.

The full report, "Price Reactions After USDA Livestock Reports, March 2012," is available on-line at [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov).

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